

**WASHINGTON, DC**-This week Congress passed a bill by Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) that would help to preserve the Fort Davis National Historic Site. HR 6176 would increase the size and preserve an important view shed for the Fort Davis National Historic Site.

"This bill allows for further conservation, a boost in tourism and economic growth in and around communities where our national parks are located," **said Rodriguez**. "It will allow Fort Davis to be seen for generations to come in the way it was meant to be seen."

**When the bill was introduced, Chuck Hunt, Superintendent of Fort Davis National Historic Site said** "I'm thrilled Congressman Rodriguez is working to save the scenery behind Officers Row at Fort Davis National Historic Site. We have photos from the 1890's that show the scene just as it is today. It would be tragic to lose this historic scenery."

Specifically the bill affects the Fort Davis National Historic Site by allowing the National Park Service to acquire additional land for a site that has been the subject of concern for the community and conservationists. Since the current acreage cap of the Fort Davis Historic Site is 476, and the park currently occupies 473 acres of that allotment, an acreage cap increase was necessary.

In addition to the Fort Davis National Historic Site the other National Park Units in the Rodriguez's district include Big Bend National Park, The Rio Grande National Wild and Scenic River, Lake Amistad National Recreation Area, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, and the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park.

The bill will now move to the Senate for consideration, where Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) has introduced companion legislation.